



MESSAGE FOR U.S. CITIZENS

U.S. Embassy, Manila, The Philippines

June 2, 2014

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION THROUGH THE EMBASSY WARDEN SYSTEM AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO AMERICAN CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD.

Travel Alert: Typhoon Season 2014

The U.S. Embassy alerts U.S. citizens to the upcoming typhoon season. Typhoon season in the Philippines begins June 1 and ends November 30, though most typhoons typically develop between May and October. The U.S. Embassy recommends that those in or traveling to the Philippines begin preparations for the upcoming season now.

During and after previous storms, U.S. citizens have encountered dangerous conditions often lasting for several days while awaiting transportation back to the United States. Emergency or security personnel may not always be readily available to assist. In the event of a typhoon, travelers should be aware that they may be in serious danger and not be able to depart the area for 24-48 hours or longer.

If you live in or travel to the Philippines, the U.S. Embassy recommends you obtain travel insurance to cover unexpected expenses during an emergency. Minor tropical storms can develop into typhoons very quickly, limiting the time available for a safe evacuation. Monitor local radio and media to be aware of weather developments. Inform family and friends of your whereabouts and remain in close contact with your tour hotel staff, transportation providers, and local officials for evacuation instructions during a weather emergency. You should consider preparing for typhoons by organizing a kit in a waterproof container that includes a supply of bottled water, non-perishable food items, a battery-powered or hand-crank radio, any medications taken regularly, and vital documents (especially your passport and other

identification). Emergency shelters often provide only very basic resources and may have limited medical and food supplies.

The following websites are excellent sources of information on typhoons in the Philippines:

- [Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical & Astronomical Services Administration \(PAGASA\)](#) - for weather and flood forecasts, severe weather bulletins, and tropical cyclone warnings.
- [Typhoon2000](#) - Philippine website devoted to tropical cyclones.
- [Joint Typhoon Warning Center \(JTWC\)](#) - U.S. Navy website based at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for storms in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

For more information, please see the Department of State's full [Hurricane and Typhoon Season Warning](#).

The Embassy is located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Manila, Philippines and is open 0730-1600, Monday through Friday. The Embassy's main telephone number is (+632) 301-2000. U.S. citizens can dial this number and ask to be connected to the American Citizen Services (ACS) unit or with the Embassy Duty Officer (for calls outside of normal business hours). You can also contact the ACS unit through email at ACSInfoManila@state.gov or through the [Embassy Facebook page](#). Please visit [our website](#) for information on all services offered by the ACS unit.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in the Philippines enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) at www.Travel.State.Gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State [Department's website](#), where you can find current [Travel Warnings](#), including the [Travel Warning for the Philippines](#), Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for the Philippines](#). For additional information, refer to "[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.